(c) Allocation/Releases of funds by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Maharashtra State during the last three years is as under :—

Year	Allocation (Rs. lakhs)
1998-99	12378.62
1999-2000	7928.95
2000-2001	10634.11

Production of Litchis

†4286. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the hectares of land and the areas of the country wherein lichis are produced;

(b) the total production of lichis in various areas/States of the country during the last two years;

(c) whether Government have worked out some specific scheme to encourage production and export of lichi in view of the challenges posed by the WTO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The details of area and production of lichi in different States of the country during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is given in the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/ Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plans under which development of fruits including lichi can be taken up. Under this scheme, the State Governments can prorities their activities and allocate the funds as per the potential and requirement in the Work Plans. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has worked out action plan for qualitative production of lichi for export from Bihar by way of organizing integrated training programmes for farmers, inviting experts from Australia, France

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and Israel for providing technical inputs for qualitative production of litchi to farmers, and sending of trial consignment of litchi to Europe by sea for developing the protocol for sea transportation of the fruit. Further, assistance has been provided for setting up three exclusive pack-houses for processing of fresh fruits and vegetables, specially lichi in Bihar.

Statement

State-wise Area and Production of Litchi

States	Area (in 000' HA)		Production (in 000' MT)	
	1998-99	1999-00	1998-99	1999-00
Assam	4.0	4.1	16.8	17.1
Bihar	25.8	26.4	309.6	316.5
Punjab	2.3	1.1	13.2	11.1
Tripura	4.7	4.7	26.6	26.6
Uttranchal	8.8	8.9	13.7	12.9
West Bengal	3.7	3.9	36.0	37.6
Others	6.9	7.6	13.0	16.5
TOTAL	56.2	56.7	428.9	438.3

Import of Animals

†4287. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that animals are being imported in the country on a large scale;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy is issuing No Objection Certificates for import of animals, without examination by the Department of Animal Research;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.